

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on February 10, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 30-32, 36, 37, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Pinder et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,105,134). Further, the Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 27, 28, 33, 34, 38, 39, 41, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pinder* in view of *Mniszewski et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,731,840), and claims 10 and 22 as being unpatentable over *Pinder* in view of *Tatebayashi et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,124,117). The Examiner also indicated that claims 11, 12, 23, 24, 29, and 35 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-16, 20-22, 24-28, 30-34, and 36-42 are pending in this application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 12, 13, 24, 25, and 30 to include the limitations of their respective allowable dependent claims 11, 23, 29, and 35. Similarly, Applicants have amended claims 37 and 40 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 11 and 23, respectively. Applicants have also canceled claims 11, 23, 29, and 35.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all of presently pending claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-16, 20-22, 24-28, 30-34, and 36-42 are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

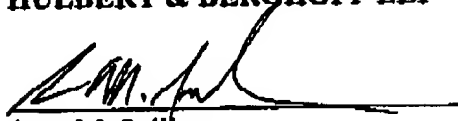
If, for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application on the basis of this amendment and feels that a telephone conference would help clear up any unresolved matters, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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